

# Hamilton County Emergency Responder

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SUMMER 2002



## **From The Director**

*Don Allen, Hamilton County Emergency Services*

*In the past few weeks, the administrative staff in EMS has experienced some major changes. New faces with new ranks! Congratulations go to Lieutenant Billy Burnette and Lieutenant Kevin Murphy on their promotions. We also have a new Shift Leader, Captain Wade Batson, and a new Deputy Chief of Operations, John Combes.*

*We are blessed with an abundance of talent among the staff of Emergency Services. I am very confident that the gentlemen taking on these new responsibilities will do an outstanding job.*

*I encourage all of you to join me in congratulating these men and give them your support in carrying out our mission here in Emergency Services.*

**DON ALLEN**

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Comments or Suggestions to the Editor, Amy Maxwell:  
Office: 209-6900 or E-Mail: [amym@exch.hamiltontn.gov](mailto:amym@exch.hamiltontn.gov)

## **Listen Up!**

If anyone is interested in getting together to sing and "pick" a guitar, call Gordon Vick at 209-6912



## SAFETY NEWS



Whether your favorite outdoor activity is swimming, or simply relaxing in the sun, you probably enjoy longer days and warmer weather in the summer. Unfortunately, the number of unintentional injuries increases so much during the summer months that the period from Memorial Day through Labor Day is often called "trauma season". To help keep your summer safe and enjoyable, here are some safety summer tips...



### SUN SAFETY

- Know and be alert for symptoms of heat illness: fainting, dizziness, headache, nausea, rapid pulse, flushed skin and body temperature of 104 degrees.
- Anyone suffering from a heat illness should rest in a cool, shaded area and sip on water.
- To avoid becoming dehydrated when sitting or working in the sun, replenish with fluids and avoid beverages with caffeine.
- Wear loose-fitting clothing.
- Use sunscreen when exposed to the sun for a long period of time.



### FIREWORKS

- Never allow young children to use fireworks without adult supervision.
- Allow all fireworks "debris" to cool thoroughly and safely remove it from driveways and streets. Some fireworks leave sharp objects behind after they have been ignited which can damage car tires.
- Read the labels and follow the directions carefully before igniting the fireworks.

### CAMPING/OUTDOORS

- Always bring a first aid kit.
- Be cautious when exploring, chopping wood or building fires.
- Wear long sleeve shirts and long pants and use insect repellent to avoid insect bites.



**USE GOOD COMMON SENSE , BE COOL AND HAVE FUN!**

## **SECURITY SYSTEMS UNDERWAY AT COURT BUILDINGS**

On July 1, 2002, Hamilton County Executive Claude Ramsey and Sheriff John Cupp announced that Hamilton County would activate a security system in the Court Buildings. The county's security system in the Hamilton County Courthouse and the City/County Courts building .

The county's security system will be similar to the security at the airport and will include both walk-through metal detectors and x-ray equipment. A Hamilton County Deputy will be stationed at each entrance.



*Photo By: Amy Maxwell*

Along with the general public, all County employees will be required to enter the Court Buildings through the secured entrances and pass through the screening process. Briefcases, handbags, packages, etc. will be subject to inspection. No weapons of any kind will be allowed in the Courts Building. This includes firearms, knives, razors, and bladed instruments of any kind, chemical agents (pepper spray or mace) or biological agents. Signs will be posted announcing that all weapons will be confiscated and all confiscated items will become the property of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. It should be noted that persons with prohibited items will be allowed the opportunity to return items to their vehicles.



*Photo By: Amy Maxwell*

Entrances to the City/County building will be restricted to the first and second floor entrances on Cherry Street. Handicap access will be available at the first floor entrance only. Entrances to the County Courthouse will be the lower level of Walnut Street and the lower level of Georgia Avenue entrances. Handicap access will be available at the Georgia Avenue entrance only.

The objective of this plan is to provide security in both Court Buildings while causing the least possible inconvenience to the general public and the employees working in the buildings. Ensuring the safety and welfare of employees and the public is a high priority.

## FIELD SERVICES

### Yesterday and Today's Firefighters

*By: Lt. Jody Clift and Lt. Buddy Kamin*

"Yesterday's" firefighters were busy performing firefighting skills. Since then, times have changed. The fire service has taken an aggressive approach to fire prevention and upgraded codes and regulations. Pre-Fire Planning and Fire Inspection have helped greatly. Smoke alarms and home pre-fire plans with portable fire protection equipment have reduced fires in homes and businesses.



*Captain Rip Rohen showing Brad Davenport, Tri-Community V.F.D., how to use a fire extinguisher. Photo By: Amy Maxwell*

In striving for more effective training, we were able to conduct a live fire training exercise. Signal Mountain Fire Department donated a log cabin for the new fire cadets of class 2002-2. These cadets experienced live fire conditions and ventilation practice. Emergency Services was fortunate to have the opportunity to help give our new cadets a chance to learn how to fight a real fire.

"Today's" new fire cadets are much more than just fire fighters. The majority of this class has received First Responder training. With the additional training, these cadets will be able to serve the communities as a fire fighter and first responder.



*Controlled house burn exercise on Signal Mountain. Photo By: Amy Maxwell*

### States Receiving Bio-Terrorism Money

*Congress approved \$1.1 billion for states and localities to prepare for terrorism. Most of that money came through the month of June 2002.*

*The bulk of it is for improving disease tracking, especially through computer networks, hiring and training. States can use some of the money for their particular circumstances.*

*A new law adds more than \$4 billion for stockpiling vaccines, improving food inspections, boosting security for water systems and more. Tennessee received \$20,119,939. The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency has created a CD-ROM series to train local rescue workers in how to handle nuclear, biological and chemical attacks or accidents.*

*Since the attacks of September 11, 2001, Hamilton County and Chattanooga Governments have received more than \$1 million in federal antiterrorism preparedness grants. Here is a look at how some of the money is being used:*

- *Hamilton County Emergency Services: \$150,000.00 for equipment and training.*
- *Hamilton County Health Department: \$768,000.00 for new staff and training.*
- *Chattanooga: \$400,000.00 over 18 months to build a Metropolitan Medical Response System.*
- *Chattanooga Fire Department: \$310,000.00 for chemical and nuclear response training.*



*The funds will also be used for equipment for emergency personnel to treat themselves. Decontamination kits and "push packs" of drugs will allow emergency personnel first on the scene to protect themselves.*

*Sources: Hamilton County and Chattanooga Governments*

## EMS NEWS

### *EMS in adding on...*

Hamilton County EMS has recently begun construction on a new Ambulance Station/Supply Depot located off of Amnicola Highway. The new station, Station 14, housing Medic 13, will serve the areas of East Chattanooga, Avondale, Bushtown, and the Amnicola Highway area, previously covered by ambulances from either Hixson, Brainerd, Highway 58, or downtown. We will be placing a new ambulance, Medic 14, in service to replace Medic 13 at Station 9. This will be the first addition to our fleet since the mid 1990's.



*Photo By: Amy Maxwell*

The Supply Depot will replace our current location in rented City property. It will allow us to expand our supply operations and include an enclosed loading dock and bay. The existing depot has been in use since 1992, and as the Service has grown in both size and volume, so has our need for additional space. This facility is being constructed by the County Maintenance Department and is expected to be completed late this year.

## **CONGRADULATIONS!!**



**John Combes:**  
**Deputy Chief of EMS**

**Wade Batson:**  
**Captain for C -Team**

**Kevin Murphy: Lieutenant for**  
**C -Team**

**Billy Burnette: Lieutenant for A -Team**

## CHIEF'S CORNER

*Since Summer is upon us, many of us will be taking our vacations. We know that the highways and rural streets are congested with construction, kids and tourists. As a result, we need to make an effort to be alert, safe and courtesy to our fellow drivers.*

*With summer here, our 9-1-1 calls increase. At times, this can be overwhelming and stressful. Try your best to stay focused. Look to your family, friends or clergy for support. Remember our families think that we are the best. I think we are the best.*

*I am excited about my new job and look forward to serving you as your Deputy Chief.*

**Deputy Chief John Combes**

## NEW FACES FOR EMS



**David Brackett**

**Paramedic for B-Team**



**Phillip Curtis**

**Paramedic for A-Team**



## EMERGENCY STATS FOR JUNE—JULY 2002

EMS CALLS: 4,000

COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE: 1,000

Provided by: Hamilton County Emergency Services Communications



### Salmon A la Jade

By: Jade Lockhart

4 large 1 1/2 inch thick salmon steaks

**Marinade:** 1/2 C pack light brown sugar  
1/2 C Butter  
1/4 C Honey  
1/4 C Orange Juice or Mango Juice  
1 T of Brandy  
Dash of Red Pepper

#### Flavored Butter:

2 T of mashed mango  
1/4 t ground white pepper  
1/4 t dried dill  
1/2 C soften butter

Combine marinade ingredients in a saucepan and cook for 4 to 5 minutes. Place salmon steaks in a glass baking dish and pour "cooled" marinade over the steaks and leave for a few hours.

Bake salmon at 400 degrees for 15 minutes or until firm.

Serve flavored butter with salmon.

**ENJOY!!**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### LOCAL TRAINING EVENTS

**August** : Self-Study: Protocols, District Review, Pharmacology



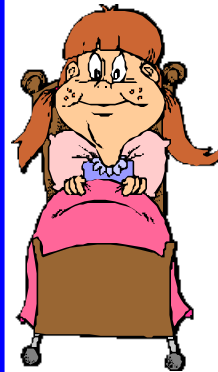
**September:** Extrication Scene Management

**October:** Documentation

### OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

**August 2 & 9:** BTLS at Chattanooga State. Contact Ann Ehmeling at 697-1333

Must contact Lt. Darlene Poole (209-6928) for exact dates & times. Everyone that needs in-service hours are welcomed to attend. Verification of Training Forms will be issued during class.



**Lt. Darlene Poole,  
GET WELL SOON!**

**From: All of us  
at  
Emergency Services**



## LEPC CONFERENCE

**OCTOBER 9-10, 2002**

This conference will entail a full week of training opportunities including:

**Monday, October 7, 2002:** Domestic Preparedness Course: Chattanooga Fire & Police Services Center  
**Monday, October 7, 2002:** HAZWOPER Refresher Course: Chattanooga Fire & Police Services Center

**Tuesday, October 8, 2002:** Domestic Preparedness Course: Chattanooga Fire & Police Services Center  
**Tuesday, October 8, 2002:** Incident Command Course: Chattanooga Fire & Police Services Center

**Wednesday, October 9, 2002:** "Focus on Emergency Planning Conference": Chattanooga Choo-Choo

**Thursday, October 10, 2002:** "Focus on Emergency Planning Conference" cont...

**Friday, October 11, 2002:** TRANSCARE Southeast U.S. "Whistle-Stop Tour": Chattanooga Choo-Choo

**REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE COMING SOON!!!**